COMMANDERS DIGEST

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RECEIVED
DOCUMENTS DIVISION

U.S. Commitment to NATO Unchanged by Troop Shift

United States officials stress that the proposed relocation of 35,000 Army and Air Force men from Europe to American bases next year is simply a geographical shift and does not change their commitment to NATO or weaken the Alliance.

Moreover, they believe Europeans understand that employment of modern mobility concepts such as airlift, prepositioned equipment and maintenance bases can get the units back in Europe quickly enough to respond to any trouble.

Four of the nine Air Force fighter squadrons to be sent home could be back at their NATO forward bases at a maximum 10 days and the two Army brigades and their 30,000 men at a maximum 30 days, according to U.S. officials. They indicate the response could even be quicker and point out in this regard that trouble would not come completely without warning.

U.S. officials emphasize that these military facets as well as the balance of payments problem were discussed at the recent tripartite talks among Britain, Germany and the United States.

While some of the Air Force and Army men in these returned units might go elsewhere, U.S. officials say, the units will lose neither their NATO commitment nor high state of readiness.

Inter-Theater Transfer Policy Issued for Army Enlisted Personnel

Army enlisted personnel on inter-theater transfer must have enough service remaining to complete the new assignment or take action to remain on active duty for this purpose.

Soldiers being transferred to U.S. Armies Europe, Alaska and South (USAREUR, USARAL, USARSO) must have 12 months remaining upon departure from the embarkation point serving their final destination. Those going to Vietnam, Thailand and Korea must have nine months remaining.

Persons without the required remaining service may enlist, reenlist, extend, or sign a statement of intent, according to their particular circumstances.

INSPECTION TOUR—Lt. Gen. James B. Lampert, USA, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower) (left), tours the U.S. Army Logistics Management Center, Ft. Lee, Va., prior to addressing students of the 12-week senior Army Logistics Management Course. Accompanying General Lampert are Col. Paul E. Bruehl, Deputy Center Commandant (right), Lt. Col. Robert F. Meiser, course director (left, rear) and Lt. Col. F. S. Wood, USMC, Gen. Lampert's Military Aide.

Army Announces Command Changes

Commanding general assignments to fill forthcoming retirement vacancies in four U. S. Armies were announced by Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara, April 28, along with names of other Army generals being reassigned.

All reassigned officers are lieutenant generals. Reassignment actions are Jonathan O. Seaman, Spec Asst, Army CofS, to CG, First Army; John L. Throckmorton, CG, XVIII Airborne Corps, to CG, Third Army; Lawrence J. Lincoln, Army Dep CoS, Logistics, to CG, Fourth Army; and Ben Harrell, CG, Army Combat Developments Command, to CG, Sixth Army.

A previous announcement was made concerning retirement of the outgoing commanding generals. The first retirement takes place June 1. The last is on Aug. 1.

Other announced lieutenant general reassignments are George R. Mather, CG, V Corps, to CG, III Corps, and Andrew J. Boyle, CG, I Corps (Group), to CG, V Corps.

Washington Memos

DOD STATISTICS SHOW that 9,407 U.S. service personnel lost their lives from hostile action causes in Vietnam from Jan. 1, 1961 through April 29, 1967. Additionally, 1,966 lost their lives from non-hostile action causes.

BRIGADIER GENERAL Philip W. Mallory, MC, has assumed command of Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington. He succeeds Maj. Gen. Douglas B. Kendrick, MC, who retired after 33 years service. Gen. Mallory was commander, Walter Reed General Hospital, when named to his new post.

RECENT AUTHORITY TO increase Women's Army Corps enlisted strength will result in enlistment of about 12,000 WACs during 24-month period beginning July 1. This compares with current 4,000 annual objective. Army is augmenting WAC recruiter force to meet increased requirements and offering reenlistment option to attract WAC recruiters.

NEW HELIPORT, described by Brig. Gen. Charles M. Duke as "finest in Vietnam", has recently been completed by 19th Bn's. Co. C and the 554th Engineer Co. The 16-pad facility, located near Qui Nhon, will serve as home base for the 196th Aviation Co., 14th Aviation Bn., which is supplying nearly all Chinook helicopters flying combat missions in South Vietnam's II Corps zone.

VADM. LAWSON P. RAMAGE became Commander Military Sea Transportation Service in April, relieving retiring VAdm. Glynn R. Donaho. Adm. Ramage was formerly Deputy Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Fleet. Also at MSTS Headquarters, RAdm. Denys W. Knoll, Deputy COMSTS, retired May 1. RAdm. John M. Alford will report as Deputy COMSTS in July.

ARMY AVIATION MATERIEL Command has awarded a $2.8 million contract to Avco Corp., of Stratford, Conn., for production and delivery of 42 T55-L-7C aircraft engines. Engines are required to support Army's CH-47 Chinook helicopter program with performance period extending through February 1969.

TOP LEVEL COURSE for senior Army officers began at Ft. Belvoir May 8. Brief but intensive Resource Management Systems Orientation Conference is first of six in May. Conference is open only to full colonels and above.

ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS DIVISION, Air Force Systems Command, has been given responsibility of developing Air Force's airborne command post with a dual role of air defense and tactical air control. Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS), nearing mid-point in conceptual studies by Douglas Aircraft Co. and Boeing Co., has been transferred from Aeronautical Systems Division, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, to command's Bedford, Mass., electronics facility.

AIR FORCE will distribute 3,031 ROTC financial assistance grants during FY68. Grants will be made to 1,000 seniors, 1,431 juniors, and 600 sophomores. In FY67, Air Force was authorized 2,000 financial assistance grants. They were awarded to juniors and seniors.

ANTARCTIC NIGHT STARTED April 19 for 200 Navy men and civilian scientists "wintering over" at McMurdo Station. Next sunrise will be on Aug. 19.

MILITARY AIRLIFT COMMAND is scheduled to receive 115 new C-5A jet transports. Commenting on the aircraft's capabilities, Gen. Howell M. Estes Jr., commander of MAC, said: "It will be capable of air dropping some 30 jeeps on a single pass. More important, it will be able to carry the largest items of military equipment—in the Army's case for instance, a 74-ton mobile scissors bridge."

FOURTH BIENNIAL USAF Major Command Open Mess Supervisors Conference will be held July 6-14 at Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. Purpose is to improve technical qualifications of command open mess supervisors.

FORMER MEMBERS OF War Department and DA Secretariat held one-day conference at Pentagon. Conferees were given up-to-date information on Army programs and exchanged ideas. Military review for Secretariat Alumni was held with 3d Inf. (Old Guard) participating.

TECHNIQUES FOR USING aircraft to acquire in-flight data for charting ocean's bottom were tested by Naval Oceanographic Office. Conducted off Florida Keys, flights included support from Army, Air Force and other government agencies. Although results are not fully known at this time, officials hope that water depths, illumination and bottom topography may be determined through use of color photography.

TWO U. S. AIR FORCE helicopters from Malmstrom AFB, Mont., helped feed cattle stranded in snow drifts in Canada. The airlift was requested by the Canadian government. Spring snowstorm left the cattle isolated.

AIR FORCE ELECTRONIC Systems Division, Hanscom Field, Mass., has been assigned a key role in development of first tactical satellite communications system for Department of Defense. Hanscom Field facility will carry out feasibility test program, a prelude to production go-ahead and will develop many of projected system's mobile terminals including airborne, ground-mobile and shipboard.

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Background for Commanders

TWENTY-EIGHT PEACE PROPOSALS REJECTED BY HANOI

(The following are excerpts from an address by Secretary of State Dean Rusk on May 1, 1967.)

In our relations with present or potential adversaries we must be resolute when firmness is required. On the other hand, we should make it clear that we are prepared to meet everyone else more than half way in building a durable peace. Despite the presence of tension and violence, we should try to resolve every outstanding question and extend the hand of cooperation where there is any response from the other side.

You should know that your President spends just as much time on the search for peace as he does on the military struggle itself. You should know that we keep in touch with all the nations of the world, including some with whom we do not have formal relations. You should recall that half the governments of the world have tried, singly or in groups, to move the violence in Southeast Asia toward a peaceful solution.

Peace Proposals Listed

Let me remind you of the many proposals which have been made by ourselves or by others as a part of this effort to take a step toward peace:

- A reconvening of the Geneva Conference of 1954 —and a return to the agreements of 1954;
- A reconvening of the Geneva Conference of 1962 on Laos—and a return to the agreements of 1962;
- A conference on Cambodia;
- An all-Asian peace conference;
- A special effort by the two Co-Chairmen;
- A special effort by the ICC (International Control Commission);
- A role for the United Nations Security Council—or the General Assembly—or the Secretary General;
- Talks through intermediaries—single or group;
- Direct talks—with the United States or with South Vietnam;
- Exchange of prisoners of war;
- Supervision of treatment of prisoners by International Red Cross;
- Demilitarize the DMZ; (North Vietnam has sent troops into the Demilitarized Zone.)
- Widen and demilitarize the DMZ;
- Interposition of international forces between combatants;
- Mutual withdrawal of foreign forces, including NVN forces;
- Assistance to Cambodia to assure its neutrality and territory;
- Cessation of bombing and reciprocal de-escalation;
- Cessation of bombing, infiltration and augmentation of United States forces;
- Three suspensions of bombings to permit serious talks;
- Discussion of Hanoi's 4 points along with points of others, such as Saigon's 4 points and our 14 points;
- Discussion of an agreed 4 points as basis for negotiation;
- Willingness to find means to have the views of the Liberation Front heard in peace discussions;
- Negotiations without conditions, negotiations about conditions or discussion of a final settlement;
- Peace and the inclusion of North Vietnam in large development program for Southeast Asia;
- Government of South Vietnam to be determined by free elections;
- Question of reunification to be determined by free elections;
- Reconciliation with Viet Cong and readmission to the body politic of South Vietnam;
- South Vietnam can be neutral if it so chooses.

I have recalled these particular items without a complete search of the record—there may be more. But what is important for you to know is we have said yes to these 28 proposals and Hanoi has said no. Surely all those yeses and all those noes throw a light upon motivation—upon the question of who is interested in peace and who is trying to absorb a neighbor by force. Surely some light is thrown upon the character of American policy and the attitudes of the American people. Surely these yeses and noes are relevant to the moral judgments which one might wish to make about the situation in Southeast Asia.

There may be those who say, 'Well, obviously you haven't offered them enough.' It's true that we haven't offered them South Vietnam. And it is true that we have not agreed to assure them that we will stop the bombing on a permanent and unconditional basis, while they continue their full violence in the south. Let's turn that around just for the moment.

Suppose the U.S. were to say that we will negotiate only if they stop all the violence in Vietnam, while we continue bombing of the north. Most people would say that we were immoral and insane. Why is what is immoral and insane for us reasonable and fair when exactly the same proposition is put to us by the other side?

Defense Report Shows Ready Reserve Increase

Ready Reserve components of all Services increased their manpower by 164,705 during FY66.

Other reserve categories in the Armed Forces declined, with the Stand-by Reserves losing 4,419. The Retired Reserves gained 32,387.

This statistical summary is part of the "Annual Report of the Secretary of Defense on Reserve Forces" which was released in late April in the form of 83 pages of narratives, graphs and policy documentation covering the entire spectrum of the Armed Forces Reserves in FY66.

Secretary McNamara's report highlighted the Ready Reserves, also citing quantum increases such as increased paid drills and field training, plus full-manning and equipment for certain units in accelerated training status.

It was not possible to train all non-prior service reserve enlistees in FY66 despite Army's expansion of training facilities, he noted, because active Army enlistees with training priorities also increased.

Mr. McNamara said 133,109 reserve enlistees were awaiting basic training at the end of FY66. That number has now been reduced to the neighborhood of 72,000.

ROK Aviation Company Scheduled for RVN Duty

Republic of Korea's first helicopter-fixed wing aviation company will be organized in Vietnam for service there by 15 ROK officers when they complete training at two U.S. Army posts in the United States.

The training includes a special rotary wing qualification course at Army's Primary Helicopter School, Ft. Wolters, Tex., and a special transition course in the UH-1D, Ft. Rucker, Ala.

Each officer had logged at least 300 hours in fixed wing aircraft. They began the current helicopter training early this year.

HEROIC DIVER—RAdm. Carlton B. Jones, Commander Mine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, presents the Bronze Star Medal to Ltjg. David L. Ussery, who made numerous dives to disarm a sunken vessel booby-trapped by Viet Cong. Lt. Ussery, O-in-C, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit One, Det. "A", Long Beach, Calif., was under enemy fire while diving.

Quarters, Subsistence Allowance Increases Sought in Two Bills

A nine percent increase in Quarters and Subsistence allowances for some 270,000 lower grade enlisted men, E-1 through E-4 with less than four years service, with an estimated annual price tag of $20.1 million, is now before Congress in two pieces of legislation.

The 1967 military pay raise bill calls for increasing the current $55.20 monthly rate of zero or one dependent to $60 and the $83.10 rate for two dependents to $90. The current $105 BAQ for more than two dependents would remain unchanged.

Legislation to extend Selective Service another four years proposes a continuation of current lower grade BAQ allowances for family assistance, as married men are now being drafted. The increase itself is in the pay bill and is based on the actual increase in cost of housing since rates were last set in 1963.

U.S. Will Display 25 Aircraft, Space Vehicles At Paris Air Salon

The United States is scheduled t display 25 different military aircraf and space vehicles at the 1967 Pari International Air and Space Salon a Le Bourget Airport, May 26 to June 4

Seventeen of the aircraft are sched uled to perform aerial demonstrations Several of the aircraft on display from Army, Navy and Air Force unit will be seen for the first time i Europe.

In addition to display aircraft an space vehicles, two military precisio flying teams, the Navy's Blue Angel and the Air Force's Thunderbirds, wil perform. The Blue Angels are sched uled for a flight demonstration o June 3, and the Thunderbirds wil perform June 4.

AF Medal of Honor Winner Wins 1966 Cheney Award

Maj. Bernard Fisher, recipient o the Medal of Honor for heroism i Vietnam, has been selected to receiv the 1966 Cheney Award.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Joh P. McConnell is scheduled to present the Cheney Award and accompanying $500 honorarium in August.

The award is given for "an act o valor, extreme fortitude, or self-sacrifice in a humanitarian interest performed in connection with aircraft."

President Johnson presented th Medal of Honor to Maj. Fisher Jan. 19 for "conspicuous gallantry, above and beyond the call of duty" o March 10, 1966, while in Vietnam.

Maj. Fisher was leading a flight o A-1Es in defense of a Special Force camp, under attack by 2,000 North Vietnam regulars. He observed a fellow airman crash and succeeded in rescuing the pilot in spite of mountainous terrain, low cloud ceiling and intense enemy fire.

He is now assigned to Hahn Air Base, Germany.

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